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SENATE BILL 602 By
Cooper

HOUSE BILL 669
By Kisber

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 27, relative to group insurance for public officers and employees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-27-201, is amended by deleting subsection (g) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(g) "State employee" means any person who is a state official, including members of the general assembly, constitutional officers, and legislative officials elected by the general assembly, or any person who is employed in the service of, and whose compensation is payable by, the state, or any person who is employed by the state whose compensation is paid, in whole or in part, from federal or other funds, but does not include any person performing services on a contractual or percentage basis. The committee shall, subject to the availability of funds as certified by the commissioner of finance and administration, have the authority to establish additional criteria that must be met by a state employee to be eligible for participation in any insurance plan offered by the committee; provided, that persons currently participating in any plan offered by the committee who are not state employees as defined in this subsection shall remain

eligible to participate until such time as coverage is provided by an alternative state administered plan offered by the committee.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-27-210, is amended by deleting that section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

8-27-210. A long-term care benefits program may be established at the discretion of the committee created in Section 8-27-101, taking into account the best interests of the state of Tennessee and persons who would receive benefits under such program. The committee is authorized to determine the benefits package, funding method, administrative procedures, eligibility provisions and rules relating to the program. If such a program is established, the committee shall have all the powers set forth in Section 8-27-201 in administering the program. Payroll deductions shall be available for the payment of premiums from salary paid by the state of Tennessee and from retirement benefits paid by the Tennessee consolidated retirement system to members participating in the plan.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001, the public welfare requiring it.